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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 22, 2004

Contact: Jim Lopach, UM political science professor, (406) 243-4829.

WASHINGTON POST POLLSTER TO SPEAK ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

MISSOULA —

Christopher Muste, senior polling analyst at the Washington Post, will discuss the upcoming presidential election during a lecture Friday, Oct. 1, at The University of Montana.

Muste will present "A Washington Post Poster Parses the 2004 Presidential Election" from 2 to 3 p.m. in the third-floor University Center Theater. The event is free and open to the public.

The lecture is sponsored by UM's College of Arts and Sciences and Pi Sigma Alpha, the Department of Political Science's student honor society.

Muste will examine the mechanics of opinion surveys, the role of polling in the 2004 presidential election and the predictive value of polls regarding the November outcome. His lecture will be followed by questions from a response panel and the audience.

Muste's Washington Post duties include collaborating with Richard Morin -- the newspaper's longtime and highly regarded director of polling -- in designing, interpreting and reporting the paper's political polls.

Muste received his doctorate in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, taught at Louisiana State University and is a UM adjunct professor. He will present another public lecture at UM analyzing the 2004 presidential election in early November.

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